



The Leeds Branch Newsletter



Future Newsletters

The Branch welcomes your news, stories, views, questions etc...

Please send all copy for future newsletters to Stella Summers.

Her e-mail address is stellaian@sums4.fsnet.co.uk Copy should be with her at least three weeks before publication for the November, February and May issues, and early July for the August issue.

or Catherine Livsey,
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Tel 01484 432270 day
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Email catherine@cld-
design.co.uk

If for some reason you don't receive any copy of the Branch newsletter please contact Brenda Burnell on 0113 267 6655.

Highland Day School

Catherine Livsey ran one of her twice-yearly Highland dance day schools on the 22nd October. As usual the morning session was aimed at the less experienced, and apart from Leeds dancers we were joined by colleagues from Manchester and North West Craven. We also welcomed Eileen Murray to help with the demonstrating, an experienced Highland dancer from Halifax.

During the morning a number of the 'Fling' steps were learnt, and to put them into context these relative novices put up a most impressive performance of The Shepherd's Crook – so that's another two or three sets ready and willing to perform this popular dance at the White Rose Festival next July!

After that, a change of tempo, and into the 9/8 time National Dance, Scottish Lilt, danced to the haunting

tune Battle of the Somme.

More experienced dancers turned up for the afternoon session, and we tried to get our heads and feet round Wilt Thou Go To The Barracks, Johnnie and then Blue Bonnets Over the Border. Eileen, mentioned above, made it look easy. Actually, it wasn't!

But that didn't spoil the enjoyment of the day at all. If you don't make mistakes, they say, you don't make anything, and we all had a great day, a most instructive and amusing one. Barracks Johnnie and perhaps even Blue Bonnets may well seem easier next time.

When is next time? 13th May. But I don't promise we will be doing BJ and BB. It is more likely that we shall be looking at the Highland dances for the White Rose Festival. So book it in!

Subscription to this Newsletter can be taken out at £3.00 for 4 issues for non Leeds Branch Members.

Contact Brenda Burnell for details and form.

The Branch web site is www.rscdsleeds.org.uk Why not give it a try?

An appreciation of Miss M Muriel Gibson

Born in 1912, died in October 2005, Lt-Col Muriel Gibson (The Colonel is a Lady) had a life more active than most.

In politics a committed Scottish Nationalist, she attended one of the first party rallies in 1932, marched on Stirling castle to haul down the Union flag, and was detained by the Glasgow police at the outbreak of war. In the 1960s she worked as the administrative secretary of the SNP, and in 1970 stood as a candidate in Edinburgh West.

In military service, she joined the VAD, Voluntary Aid Detachment, at the outbreak of the Second World War, and rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Women's Royal Army Corps serving in Africa, Germany, and Italy. She was mentioned in dispatches.

An internationalist, she was secretary of the Russian Ballet Society in Edinburgh, and had personal friendships with several consuls who were posted there.

A business woman, she held a senior personnel post with the electronics company Ferranti: in the voluntary sector, she was director of the Red Cross in Hamilton.

New Committee

After the recent AGM, I would like to introduce you to the new committee.

Chairman Roy Goldring Tel 01943 601373

Secretary Ian Clark Tel 0113 2678 228

Treasurer Gerry Yates Tel 01422 360595
Email gerryates@tiscali.co.uk

Membership Secretary
Brenda Burnell 0113 267 6655
Email brenda@gunnyjwar.demon.co.uk

Newsletter Editors
Catherine Livsey Tel 01484 306637
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Stella Summers Tel 0113 286 6295
Email stellaian@sums4.fsnet.

Committee
Don Andrews, Susan Carr, Aileen Gray
Val Hall, Jean Weatherill
There is a vacancy for a member that has not served on the committee before.

It was with this wide ranging experience that she joined the RSCDS as its secretary in 1970s, a post she held until her retirement in 1990s.

Subsequently she served as vice-president, a fitting honour for one who had shown throughout her life such a passion for Scottish country dancing. As secretary, she kept her finger very firmly on the pulse of a rapidly expanding organisation, was formidably efficient, was highly sociable and always able to put a name to a face. She travelled widely representing the Society, though sadly never visited the Leeds Branch. It is said that when she retired it required three people to replace her!

Derek Haynes' fine dance Miss Gibson's Strathspey will remain a fitting memorial to her life and work, and perhaps there will be a revival of interest in Jackie Johnstone's Miss Gibson's Reel in recognition of the energy she put into everything she undertook.

Sat 17th December 2005 7.30pm

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spens Lane

Music: James Gray/Keith Smith Duo

M.C.: Alan and Susan Carr

Admission: £6, Non-member £7, Full time Education £3,
Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

EH3 7AF	J 8x32	Book 40
John of Bon Accord	R 8x32	Book 33
My Friend Joe	S 8x32	Book 38
Spiffin'	J 5x32	Quarrie et al.
Johnnie's Welcome Home	R 8x40	Book 32
Margaret Parker's Strathspey	S 8x32	Book 31
Napier's Index	J 8x40	Book 45
The Montgomerie's Rant	R 8x32	Book 10

INTERVAL (Mince pies)

Pelorus Jack	J 8x32	Book 41
Flowers of Edinburgh	R 8x32	Book 1
The Dream Catcher	S 96	Book 45
Tribute to the Borders	J 8x32	Leaflet
General Stuart's Reel	R 8x32	Book 10
The Moray Rant	S 3x48	Drewry
Macleod's Fancy	J 4x32	Book 33
Marie's Wedding	R 8x32	Cosh

Extras

West's Hornpipe	R 8x32	5 Trad.
The Wild Geese	J 8x32	Book 24
Clutha	R 4x48	Book 31
Minister on the Loch	S 3x32	Goldring

A Glimpse of St Andrews 2005

It now seems a long time since the Festival and St Andrews but memories remain clear. This year Summer School had to start on a Monday to allow the golfers and followers to vacate the town (and the accommodation). This done we arrived for our shortened week and were quickly renewing old friendships and making new ones. The numbers were low and this made the week more cosy as you felt you knew all the dancers on the course. It definitely has its advantages going when the course is not full - there's room to dance especially on the super floor of the Younger Hall.

Classes were small and individual teaching and correction was a reality. The inevitable sore feet and stiff limbs were in evidence for those not

used to dancing five hours a day! The exam classes were held as usual but the Prelim class followed the new syllabus for this test whilst the Teacher's Certificate class adhered to old system. The evenings were fun and the demonstrations at the Thursday dance in the Younger Hall lacked some of their former glory. This had nothing to do with the quality of the dancing but rather to the hotch potch dress of the ladies. This year the ladies were allowed to choose their own colour and style of dress. Gone are the days (or so it seems) when the mixed team looked smart with the ladies in white dresses. Thank goodness the men are still wearing kilts!

This year the new book is much more danceable and some of the dances will become firm favourites. This is fitting as Book 45 will be the last book published by the Society.

All too soon the week was over. Cheerios were said with promises of we'll be back and everyone headed for home after a very pleasant (and energetic) week.

Sat 21st January 2006 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE 'Tae the Lassies'

West Park Centre, Spen Lane

Music: Neil Copland Trio M.C: Don Andrews

Admission: £6, Non-member £7, Full time Education £3,
Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

Jean's Jig	J 8x32	Leeds 35
Swiss Lassie	R 8x32	Book 39
Miss Ogilvie's Fancy	S 8x32	Book 20
Miss Hadden's Reel	J 4x32	Book 23
The Highland Lass	R 8x32	Book 30
Mrs Milne of Kinneff	S 4x32	Leaflet
The Miller of Sessnie	J 5x32	Goldring
Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich	R 8x32	Leaflet

INTERVAL

Espie McNabb	J 8x32	MMM 1
Mrs Macpherson of Inveran	R 8x32	Drewry
The Royal Wedding	S 8x32	5/82
The Immigrant Lass	J 8x32	Book 39
Peggy Dewar	R 8x32	Book 38
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	S 8x32	Leaflet
Ladies' Fancy	J 8x32	Book 13
Mairi's Wedding	R 8x40	Cosh

Extras

Anna Holden's Strathspey	S 6x32	Book 42
The Laird of Milton's Daughter	J 8x32	Book 22
The Ladies of Dunse	R 8x40	Book 26
Miss Allie Anderson	J 8x32	Leaflet

Welcome to new members (and old)

We would like to welcome the following new members for this year and hope to see them joining us at classes and dances at West Park.

Jean Hardman

Nadine Wharton

Jean Woodward

Malcolm and Catherine Byrne

TE McCrimmon

Isobel Crabtree

Judy Depledge

Zoe Appleton

We are pleased to welcome back to dance with us again

Christina Quirke

Kirsty Butler

Perth Jamboree

Or, the RSCDS Annual General Meeting,
4th-6th November 2005.

The jamboree divides into two parts, the fun bit and the other bit (which is not without its moments).

The fun bit

The Ball. A piper in full No.1 rigout greeted those arriving for the Ball on the Friday night. 'Formal Dress Preferred', and generally worn by the 700 or so dancers. Nice glass of wine. Colin Dewar and his band warming up. 8.30 prompt MC Jean Martin gets the show on the road with Happy Meeting, no bother there. The programme was devised by the Japanese Branches, the three of them, so the second dance was Dancing in the Street from Book 42, the only RSCDS published dance (so far) by a Japanese deviser. Shall we press on by mentioning that perhaps a few dancers were not totally familiar with it? Anyway, after that, we got back in the groove and danced on through a familiar and enjoyable programme until the half past midnight had struck and we retired to carriages.

The Dance. At 7.30 on the Saturday an even larger crowd assembled to dance to the lively music of Marian Anderson's Band, programme prepared by the Newcastle Branch. Really, great fun was had by all, with many testing favourites on the programme like The Earl of Mansfield, The Diamond Jubilee, and The Royal Wedding, all danced with enthusiasm if a bit lacking in accuracy.

And the other bits.

Well, mainly, there was the AGM itself on the Saturday afternoon. The President, the Earl of Mansfield himself, was unable to attend due to poor health, but vice-president the Hon. Peregrine Moncrieffe of Moncrieffe presented half a dozen Scrolls of Honour and set the formal proceedings going with an accomplished speech of welcome – following, I should not forget to tell, a message of greeting from the Society Patron, Her Majesty the Queen.

Reports were presented and adopted: the results of committee elections were announced: a motion

'That the minimum age to sit the Teaching Certificate Part 1 be reduced from 18 to 16; and that the minimum age to sit the Teaching Certificate Part 2 be abolished' was proposed with a quite brilliant speech by a 19 year old from the Banffshire Branch. Good debate followed, and he was invited to 'sum up' and did that equally brilliantly. The vote was taken, the motion fell by 87 votes to 107, but my word what an impression that young man made.

Various other activities filled the week-end. A Branch Forum led by London and Croydon Branches, a class taught by David Hall, an open discussion for members, four discussion groups on the Sunday morning, and people went home having had a really enjoyable week-end.

You don't have to be a 'delegate' to go and enjoy the week-end, in fact most of those present were not. It's worth going to meet people, to mix, and to enjoy the splendid dancing. It's in Aberdeen next year, first week-end in November.

Sat 18th February 2006 7.30pm SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spenn Lane

Music: George Meikle and 'The Musicians'

M.C: Pauline Hampson

Admission: £6, Non-member £7, Full time Education £3,

Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

Anderson's Rant	J 8x32	MMM 1
Portnacraig	R 8x32	Book 36
The Saltire Strathspey	S 4x32	Book 45
The Starry Eyed Lassie	J 8x32	Book 23
The Barmkin	R 88	Goldring
The Gentleman	S 8x32	Book 35
Joe MacDiarmid's Jig	J 4x32	5/82
Polharrow Burn	R 5x32	Foss

INTERVAL

Come Under My Plaidie	J 5x32	Children's
The Ladies of Dunse	R 8x40	Book 26
Capetown Wedding	S 8x32	Book 39
EH3 7AF	J 8x32	Book 40
A Reel for Alice	R 5x32	Goldring
The Dream Catcher	S 96	Book 45
The Dancers' Wedding	J 8x32	Book 41
Duke of Perth	R 8x32	Book 1

Extras

James Gray	J 4x32	Book 42
Cherry Bank Gardens	S 3x32	Drewry
Clutha	R 4x48	Book 31
Linton Ploughman	J 8x32	Book 5

Knaresborough Class Hogmanay Ceilidh

The members of the Knaresborough class have asked for a Hogmanay Ceilidh this year. This will take place at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Gracious Street, Knaresborough from 8:00pm on 31st December 2005 to 12:30am on 1st January 2006.

It is designed to cater for both dancers and non-dancers, so will include both country and ceilidh dances. It will also include some "party turns" if suitable volunteers are forthcoming. It will be very much a party night, with dances that most will be able to manage - no "Mastermind" dances. The class has been operating at Holy Trinity for nearly eight years now and we hope some of the parishioners will join us - partly as a "thank you" but we can hopefully interest some of them in joining the class.

Please come yourselves and bring your friends with you, especially those you feel might be persuaded to join any of the Branch's classes
The "technical details" are:

- Music:** CD's
- Dances:** a mixture of country and ceilidh
- The programme will be flexible to cater for the audience but we would expect to include some seasonal dances, such as "Hogmanay Jig" and "The Christmas Tree"
- Other items:** These will depend upon what volunteers come forward.
- Joint MC's:** Malcolm Frost and Ann Baranyai
- Food:** Faith Supper
- Drink:** Bring your own (and any glasses you need)
- Cost:** £4.00 per head by ticket, available from Malcolm Frost (01423 872686) or Ann Baranyai (01423 547475) (this is to enable us to ensure that we do not exceed capacity)

Directions

From Leeds - Follow A61 north to southern outskirts of Harrogate. At Buttersyke Bar roundabout, take 3rd exit A658 towards A1. Continue straight ahead at next roundabout (2nd exit) where A661 Harrogate Wetherby road crosses. In about 1/2 mile turn left on B6163 signposted to Knaresborough. Follow

B6163 road into Knaresborough, down steep hill, across the river bridge and up the opposite side. At the top of the hill are two pubs on right. Just past them (opposite Cheapside) is a large stone arch on the right. Go through the arch and bear right; hall is behind church.

The hall can happily hold six sets for country dancing (2 rows of 3 sets).

It would be a nice gesture to make a donation to the church (or to a charity nominated by the church) if we make a substantial profit. The church celebrates its 150th anniversary in 2006. I understand their main celebrations will be mid-August. The church warden has already asked me if we will be able to help. The class is currently sufficiently well supported that I would hope to do a little display for them but it would be nice if we could get the actual demonstration team to do a spot. I'll keep you posted as I hear more about actual dates, etc.

Other events coming up for the class include

30 November 2005: St Andrew's Day Special - actually on the day this year!

16 December 2005: Knaresborough Class Christmas Party - Faith Supper

25 January 2006: Knaresborough Class Burns Special - actually on the day!

15 February 2006: Valentine's Special
Obviously, all Branch members are welcome at any of these. Ann provides "Haggis, Neeps & Tatties" for the St Andrew and Burns evenings. There is a small extra charge on these evenings to cover the cost of the food and we need to know beforehand so we can ensure there's enough food.

Please get back to Ann or Malcolm if you need any more information.

A message from Barbara

I had my hip replacement on 1st August. Now I am at home, mobilizing and resting, being careful, dreaming of being at West Park, and having a dance with all of you.
Barbara Caldicott

(intended for the August Newsletter)

White Rose Festival 2006

After the huge success of the 2005 event - great weather, great venue, great crowds, great music, great dancing - one of our North West Craven colleagues described it as 'the best day's dancing I have had in my life', planning is well ahead for the 2006 Festival.

The 2005 venue, Leeds Grammar School, is undertaking a merger with the girls' school over the next couple of years so that site, which was so well appreciated last July, will not be available to us. However we have secured the use of the Gateways School, Harewood, and having had a good look round we are sure it will be equally well liked. The Sports Hall is not quite as big as LGS, but we also have use of a fine Performing Arts Studio, and the field we will use is equally attractive. Spectators will have a splendid view, not only of the dance area, but also the idyllic landscape of Harewood.

Programmes have been devised already, and will very soon appear on the web site. As the 2006 Festival is a 'Roy Goldring Spectacular', and Roy himself has agreed to perform the opening ceremony, half the Festival dances are well known ones from his pen, and in the evening

programme about one third of them are from the same deviser.

We are also inviting Eileen Watt to come down from Edinburgh as an honoured guest. Eileen has recently retired from the full-time staff at RSCDS headquarters, but is still helping out part-time. She has been on the staff for 17 years, and has the added distinction of being the only member of staff who dances!

One of the most welcome features of the 2005 event was the large number of participants from the Leeds groups and classes, and we hope this will be at least matched this year. All the dances are readily accessible, well known, and well liked.

Put the date in your diaries: Saturday 8th July 2006!

The Royal Hotel

1 Shaftesbury Road, Bridlington
YO15 3NP

Tel 01262 672433

www.royalhotelbrid.co.uk

Hi - My husband and I have recently taken over The Royal Hotel in Bridlington. We have several dance clubs who book the hotel for two/three/four days and organise dances. We have 16 ensuite bedrooms and also a self contained house - altogether we can accommodate 42 people. We have a reasonable sized dance floor (approx 12 m x 7m) which can easily accommodate the hotel occupants and we can tailor make the holiday to suit.

I am also an ex-scottish highland dancer and country dancer too. So Scottish dance groups would be particularly welcome.

Many thanks **Fiona Garth & Tim Norman**

Sorry and Thank You

I am sorry you haven't had a newsletter since May. Has many of you will know it was due to my ill health and subsequent operation. I am now feeling lots better and getting back to full fitness again. I would like to thank many of you for sending get well cards and good wishes and those who visited me in hospital and at home, I really appreciated it. Thank you all very much.

Kind regards Catherine Livsey

Lunch at the Day School

On September 17th 2005 we held our annual day school. A very good day was had by all thanks to the tuition of Margo Priestley and excellent music from Ian Slater. The theme for the day was the was Book 45. The day was rounded off by an excellent dance to the music of the Jean McConnachie Trio.

After the disaster last year of uncooked potatoes for lunch, this year we were more successful. A busy morning at home for our secretary and myself meant that everyone had a baked potato for lunch at the correct time.

May I take this opportunity to thank all the helpers who rallied round to support me in September. Without them this year, I couldn't have managed.

Brenda



Scottish Country Dancer



There were some errors in our members receiving this new magazine. They were sent directly to members' homes for the first time. If you were one of the unlucky ones that did not receive a copy please do

get in touch with me as I now have some spares.

I hope you enjoyed reading this new magazine, there were lots of interesting articles in it.

I am now hoping to dispense with the box that appears at West Park each month with uncollected books and bulletins. Please could the following dancers arrange for someone to collect their books etc, send postage or phone to say they do not wish to receive them.

Kirsty Butler
Irene Dracup
Steven and Pru Foster
Alexis Henderson
Audrey Hinchliffe
T Howstan
Peter and Brenda Marlow
Carolyn and Martin Peuleve
Christina Quirke
Alan Smith
Eric and Mary Wallace
Mr and Mrs IH Williams

Brenda Burnell (0113 2676655)

DATES, DATES, DATES

The many dances arranged locally are listed in the Yorks & North East Scottish Country Dance Diary.

DECEMBER 2005

5th Adel Tea Dance

1.45-3.45 Adel Methodist Church Hall,
Gainsborough Avenue.

All welcome: £2.50

Programme: EH3 7AF, The Moray Rant, Spiffin',
Napier's Index, Margaret Parker's Strathspey,
Pelorus Jack, The Dream Catcher,
Tribute to the Borders, Marie's Wedding.

Extras: Catch the Wind, Flowers of Edinburgh,
My Friend Joe.

17th Social Dance(with Mince Pies)

West Park Centre 7.30

Music: James Gray/Keith Smith Duo

MC: Alan & Susan Carr

JANUARY 2006

21th Social Dance (Tae the Lassies)

West Park Centre 7.30

Music: Neil Copland Trio

MC: Don Andrews

FEBRUARY 2006

18th Musicians' Day School with George Meikle

10am Adel Methodist Church Hall,
Gainsborough Avenue.

18th Social Dance

West Park Centre 7.30

Music: George Meikle and Musicians

MC: Pauline Hampson

MARCH 2006

18th Children's festival

West Park Centre 1.30pm

Music: Ian Slater

18th Social Dance

West Park Centre 7.30

Music: Ian Slater MC: Terry Chater

24/26th Scarborough Weekend School

Clifton Hotel

Music: Andrew McConnell Music: George Meikle

Full details of these events will be circulated at Branch dances during the summer and posted on the Branch web site, www.rscdsleeds.org.uk.

Application forms and information for all day schools and weekend are also available from Yvonne Tredgett, 17 Aviemore Rd, Warmsworth, Doncaster DN4 9ND. Tel 01302 851174.

Classes

Spring Term 2006

Week commencing 9th January to week commencing 3rd April, (Unless otherwise agreed).

Fees:

£2.50 per class, £28 single class, £43 any class.

Classes

Monday Afternoon

1.45 - 3.45 - General/Beginner

Adel Methodist Church Hall

Gainsborough Avenue, Adel, Leeds 16

Teachers: Alan and Susan Carr

Monday Evening

7.45 - 9.45pm - Advanced

Calverley Conservative Club,

Teacher: Catherine Livsey

Tuesday evening

7.45 - 9.45 Intermediate/Beginner

Adel Methodist Church Hall

Teachers: Avis Harrison

Wednesday evening

7.30 - 10.00 - General/Beginner

Holy Trinity Church Hall

Knaresborough contact Malcolm Frost

for venue 4th Wednesday of each month 01423 872686

Teachers: Ann Baranyai and Malcolm Frost

Thursday evening

7.45 - 10.00 - General/beginner

Brackenwood Community Centre,

New Building, Lidgett Lane, Leeds

Teachers: Brenda Burnell/

Stella Summers

Friday evening - children

7.15 - 8.45 Hawksworth Wood

Primary School, Broadway, Leeds 5

Teacher: Brenda Burnell

Sunday afternoon

1.45 - 3.45 4th December 2005,

8th January, 5th February, 12th

March, 9th April, 7th May and

4th June 2006 .

Askwith Village Hall.

Experienced dancers interested in demonstration work and innovative dances. All Welcome

Teacher: Catherine Livsey

For more information see www.rscdsleeds.org.uk